

GAU 1614  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): MASAHIRO SASAKI, et al.

Examiner:

Serial No.: 09/936,045

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For: FUNCTIONAL ORAL  
PREPARATIONS

Dated: July 23, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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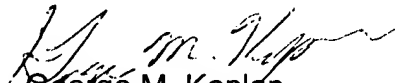
LETTER

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the art listed upon accompanying Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and printed upon the patent issuing upon the above-identified application. These references were cited in the Search Report of the priority PCT application, all copies having been received by the Patent and Trademark Office as noted in the 371 Acceptance Letter mailed November 2, 2001. The Search Report also categorizes all references, thus satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance under M.P.E.P. §609. Additionally, the Sasaki reference was published after the priority date of the above-identified U.S. application.

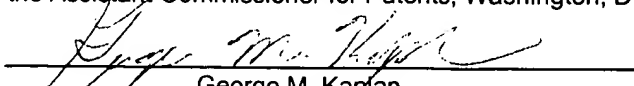
Respectfully submitted,

  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope, addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 23, 2002.

  
George M. Kaplan